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LETTER DATED 13 DECEMBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon authorization, I send this letter to you concerning the massacres committed by the United States troops during the last Korean war.

As you are aware, the latest disclosure of the fact that the United States troops massacred innocent civilians in south Korea during the last Korean war and their criminal act of spraying defoliant in the demilitarized zone along the Military Demarcation Line are arousing the indignation and resentment of the world's people.

The materials now at issue are no more than the tip of the iceberg as concerns the atrocities committed by the American troops in the Korean War, whose precedent cannot be found elsewhere in the world in terms of its brutality and scale.

Those atrocities were made public in detail during the Korean war through the official documents of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), the investigation data of the International Women's Union and the International Lawyers' Association and by the honest journalists and pressmen.

In the Korean war, the United States troops committed inhuman murderous acts everywhere they set foot, such as gorging out people's eyes, cutting out their ears and hands, disembowelling, chopping bodies alive into pieces with saws or knives and burying them alive.

According to the data released at the time, only in those days of the temporary occupation of the northern part of our Republic, the United States troops killed, in such a brutal way, over 1 million and hundreds of thousands of innocent inhabitants there: 15,000 in Pyongyang, 35,380 in Sinchon County, equivalent to one fourth of its population, 19,072 in Anak County, 5,545 in Songhwa County, 13,000 in Unryul County, 5,290 in Pyongsan County, 6,000 in Haeju City, 1,511 in Nampo City, etc.

The investigation group of the International Women's Union disclosed, after gathering the results of its on-site inspections, that "the large-scale massacre and torture committed by the United States troops in the areas under their

temporary occupation are more brutal than those committed by the Hitler Nazis in the Europe which they had occupied temporarily".

It is none other than the United States troops that committed the unprecedented manslaughter in the Korean war.

What does matter here is that they committed such massacres in the name of the "UN forces". That the United States troops were named the "UN forces" at that time was, of course, not pursuant to the United Nations resolution, as your predecessor, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, acknowledged, but rather it was purely abused by the United States.

However, since the massacres by the United States troops took place under the name of the "UN forces", the United Nations is linked with them and responsible for them.

This notwithstanding, the United Nations did not take any measures to stop the United States troops' atrocities at that time, thus leaving a disgraceful blemish on its history.

With regard to the massacres committed at that time by the United States troops in outrageous violation of recognized international law, the Government of the DPRK submitted 20-odd official documents to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council informing them of the truth of the materials and requested them to take steps to stop the United States troops' massacre immediately.

However, the United Nations totally ignored and turned away from our demand and has not responded to it up to now.

The United States is still maintaining the "UN Command" in south Korea, stained with murderous atrocities up to the present day, using it as a tool for concealing its war policy.

The United Nations should not turn away from dismantling the "UN Command" in south Korea and evade its responsibility, but rather should take appropriate steps, both in view of the requirement of the present changed situation and in the spirit of liquidation of its past.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) LI Hyong Chol
Ambassador
Permanent Representative